

Memorandum

REPORT TO: City Commission

FROM: Takami Clark, Communications & Engagement Manager
Chuck Winn, City Manager

SUBJECT: Engagement Framework Update Work Session

MEETING DATE: June 16, 2026

AGENDA ITEM TYPE: Citizen Advisory Board/Commission

RECOMMENDATION: Listen to presentation, ask/answer questions

STRATEGIC PLAN: 1.2 Community Engagement: Broaden and deepen engagement of the community in city government, innovating methods for inviting input from the community and stakeholders.

BACKGROUND: In 2023, the Montana State Legislature passed the Montana Land Use Planning Act (MLUPA), which overhauled laws around land use that apply to cities of a certain size. MLUPA defined the level of public participation that is required when cities adopt, amend, or update their land use plan or associated regulations and plans. It requires cities to provide “continuous public participation” and to adopt a public participation plan that demonstrates the City’s compliance with these requirements.

The City of Bozeman adopted an [Engagement Framework](#) in 2021 to guide how City staff, leadership, and the community can contribute to decision-making processes in our city. After five years of implementing this framework and the Engage Bozeman hub for engagement projects, it is an opportune time to update the City’s engagement framework to reflect both lessons learned and new statutory requirements stemming from MLUPA.

City staff started the [Engagement Framework Update](#) to make updates to our existing engagement framework with input from the public. City Commission will approve any changes to the engagement framework. During this work session, Commissioners will provide feedback on what they want to see in an updated draft, how they feel the city could improve in responding to public comment and showing residents that feedback was considered, and what improvements need to be made to overall communications and engagement processes.

UNRESOLVED ISSUES: None

ALTERNATIVES: None

FISCAL EFFECTS: None

Report compiled on: May 26, 2026